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GREAT HARWOOD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

•

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspector

•

FOR THE YEAR
1966

GREAT HARWOOD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

on the

HEALTH AND SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

of the

DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR

1966

R. C. WEBSTER
Medical Officer of Health

G. WALMSLEY
Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1966 - 1967

CHAIRMAN

Councillor F. Ainsworth

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor R. Ashworth

COMMITTEE

Councillors:-

J. Dunn, J.P.
R. Eatough.
Miss M. J. Hall.
J. Hayhurst.
D. Keighley.
T. Lambert, J.P.
D. McClaskey.
D. Mercer.
T. C. Potts.
W. Wells.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Administrative Staff

Medical Officer of Health

and

Divisional Medical Officer of Health (No. 5 Division)

R.C. WEBSTER, T.D.,B.Sc.,M.D.,D.P.H.,D.C.H.

Public Health Inspector

and

Cleansing Superintendent

G. WALMSLEY, M.R.S.P.H.,M.A.P.H.I.

Typist & Clerk

Miss M. Cunliffe

Public Health Department,

Town Hall,

Great Harwood.

To the Chairman and Members

of the

Great Harwood Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report for 1966.

Again I am glad to say that the health of the community continues to be satisfactory.

The statistics as to child deaths compare quite well with those of the rest of the country. The birth rate is similar to that for the country generally but the death rate is substantially higher than the general death rate for the whole country. This, however, is the general experience in the northern half of the country as compared with the south.

No serious outbreaks of infectious disease occurred during the year but the customary peak of measles which occurs fairly regularly in alternate years, overlapped into 1966.

One notices that there are still over 1,000 waste water closets to be converted in the area. Again and again I feel that this particular item is a salutary warning to us of the fact that short term expedients can often lead to an expensive and tedious legacy for future generations. One cannot, of course, blame the people of a century ago too much since they probably did not foresee the developments of future years but it is a warning to us that we should pause to consider from time to time whether we are ourselves, in the present age, doing anything which future generations may blame us for.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Committee for your continued support and consideration, and my colleagues - most especially the Clerk of the Council and the Senior Public Health Inspector - for their continuous co-operation.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. C. WEBSTER

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

OF THE AREA

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

GENERAL

Area in acres	2,868
Number of inhabited houses (1.4.66.)	3,902
Number of Commercial premises etc.	977
Rateable Value	£273,563
Sum represented by a penny rate (1966)	£1,106
Population at 1951 Census	10,783
Estimated Population for 1966	10,640

CHIEF INDUSTRIES IN THE AREA

The principal industries are the manufacture of cotton goods, light engineering trades, footwear, coated felts, floor coverings, food manufacture and packing.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	99	75	174
Illegitimate	4	6	10
Total	103	81	184

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimate population:

Crude	17.3
Adjusted	18.8

STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total	3	2	5

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births 26.5

DEATHS	Male	Female	Total
Deaths	91	85	176

Mortality Rate per 1,000 estimate population:

Crude	16.5
Adjusted	16.0

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population:

(England and Wales) . ..	11.7

INFANT MORTALITY

	Males			Females		
	Total	Legit	Illegit	Total	Legit	Illegit
Deaths of Infants						
Under 1 year of age	1	1	-	-	-	-
Under 4 weeks of age	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 1 week of age	-	-	-	-	-	-

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	5.4
Neo Natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	NIL
Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	NIL
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 total births	26.5

Comparative Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates

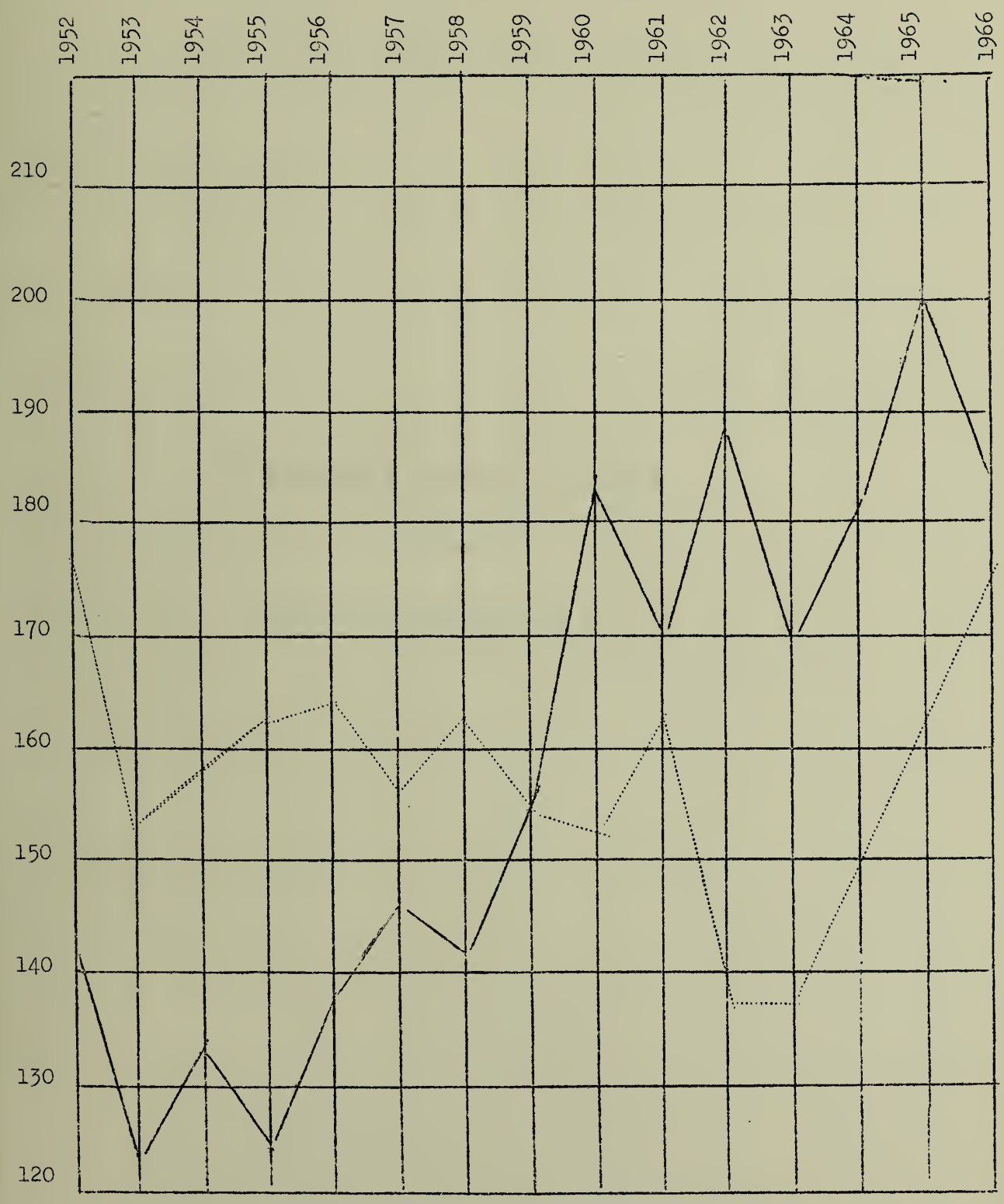
Analysis of Mortality and Maternal Mortality in the year 1966

	England and Wales	Great Harwood
	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population	
Births		
Live Births	17.7	18.8
Still Births	15.4 (a)	26.5
Deaths		
All causes	11.7	16.0
Tuberculosis (all forms)	0.048	0.00
Cancer (all forms)	2.25	2.17
Lung and bronchus	0.56	0.18
Other cancer	1.69	1.99
Maternal mortality (total)	0.26 (a)	0.00
Infant mortality	19.0 (b)	5.4 (b)
Neo-natal mortality	12.9 (b)	0.00(b)
Notifications (corrected)		
Typhoid Fever	0.002	0.00
Paratyphoid fever	0.003	0.00
Meningococcal infection	0.008	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.442	0.34
Whooping Cough	0.402	0.46
Diphtheria	0.000	0.00
Erysipelas	0.028	0.01
Measles	7.149	22.5
Acute Pneumonia	0.167	0.08
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.00	0.00
Acute Encephalitis	0.002	0.00
Dysentery	0.446	0.30
Food poisoning	0.113	0.01
Puerperal pyrexia	0.185	0.00
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	0.257	0.28

(a) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births
(b) Per 1,000 live births

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, others	-	-	-
Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-
Diptheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infections and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	4	3	7
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
Other Malignant & Lymphatic neoplasms	8	4	12
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous system	12	14	26
Coronary Diseases, angina	18	13	31
Hypertension with heart disease	2	4	6
Other heart diseases	13	24	37
Other Circulatory diseases	7	5	12
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	5	7
Bronchitis	5	2	7
Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital Malformation	-	-	-
Other defined and ill defined diseases	9	6	15
Motor vehicle accidents	3	-	3
All other accidents	3	1	4
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
Suicide	-	-	-
TOTAL	91	85	176

ANALYSIS OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS



GENERAL PROVISIONS

of the

HEALTH SERVICE

HEALTH SERVICES AVAILABLE TO GREAT HARWOOD

Divisional Health Committee	Office at 19, St. James Street, Accrington, Telephone Accrington 34223.
Divisional Medical Officer	Dr. R. C. Webster
Ante-Natal Clinics	Water Street, Great Harwood. Every Thursday morning.
County Clinic	High Street, Rishton. First and Third Wednesday each month.
Child Welfare Clinic	Water Street, Great Harwood. All day every Wednesday. Immunisation and U.V.R., by appointment.

For the following services:-

Day nurseries, Domestic Helps, Mental Health Service, Accommodation for the elderly (not sick) persons.

Enquiries should be made at the Divisional Health Office, 19, St. James Street, Accrington.

Divisional Education Executive	Divisional Medical Officer, DR. R. C. WEBSTER.

School medical routine and special examination.

Minor ailment clinic every Friday morning.

Opthalmic and Orthopaedic Clinic (by appointment) at High Street, Rishton.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

All pathological and bacteriological work for the Health Department is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at Preston.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

This service is administered by the No. 5 Health Division of the Lancashire County Council. The station at Great Harwood was closed in 1966 due to the completion of a new ambulance station at Altham, near Clayton-le-Moors.

HOME HELP SERVICE

The Home Help service is administered by the Divisional Health Authority.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

A weekly clinic is held for children under five years, and a pre-natal clinic is held once a fortnight. The duties are under the control of the Divisional Health Authority. The clinic is situated in the Water Street Health Centre.

DAY NURSERIES

There is a one day nursery in the town administered by the Divisional Health Authority.

HOSTEL ACCOMMODATION

One hostel is available for aged persons. It is operated by the County Council and has accommodation for thirty-nine men and women.

Lyndon House, erected in 1963, was extended in 1966 to provide additional accommodation for older people. 41 flatlets are now available supervised by a full time warden.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL

of

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

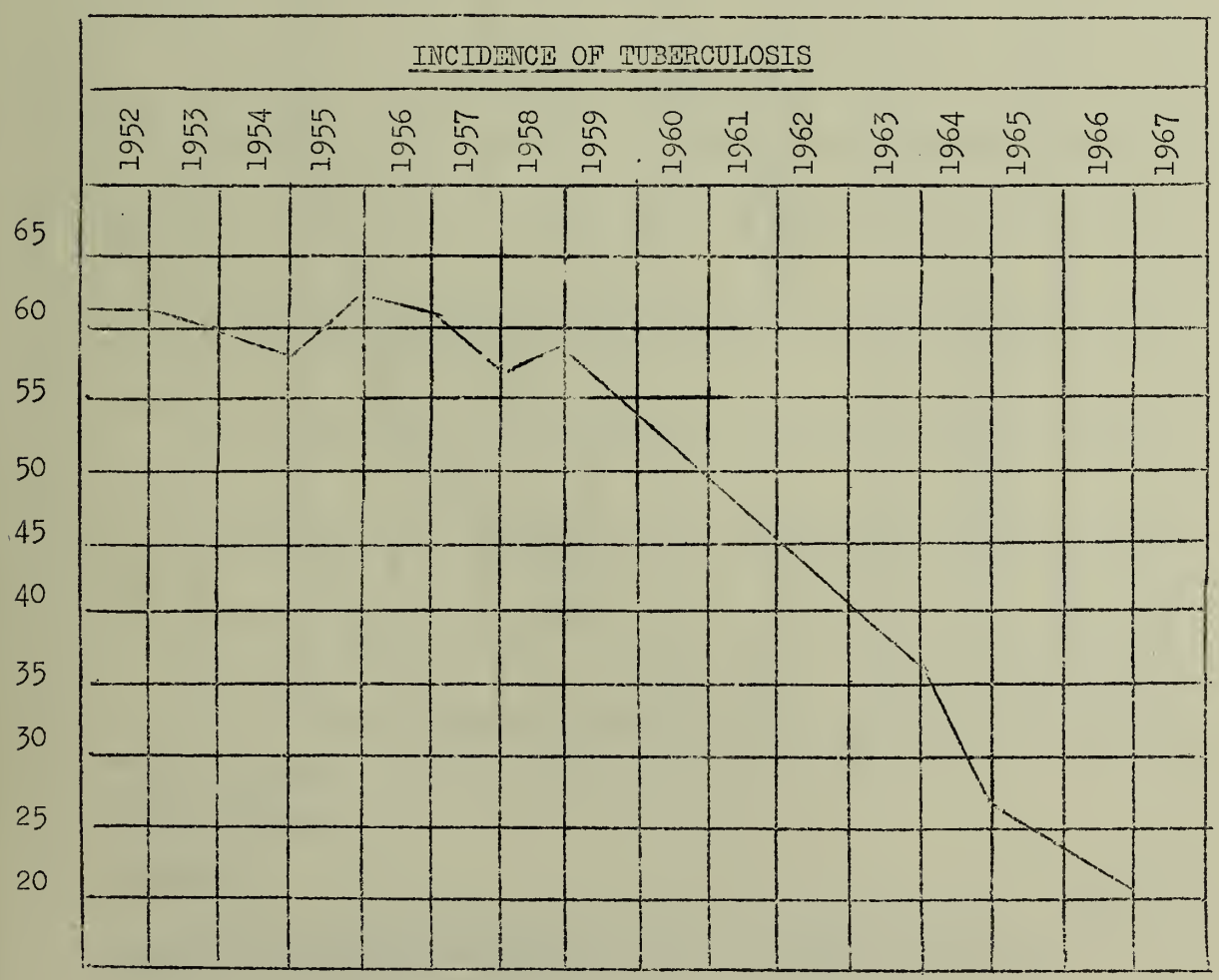
TUBERCULOSIS

The administration is carried out by the Lancashire County Council and Regional Hospital Board and co-operation is maintained through the Public Health Department. Disinfection of articles and premises is carried out when necessary.

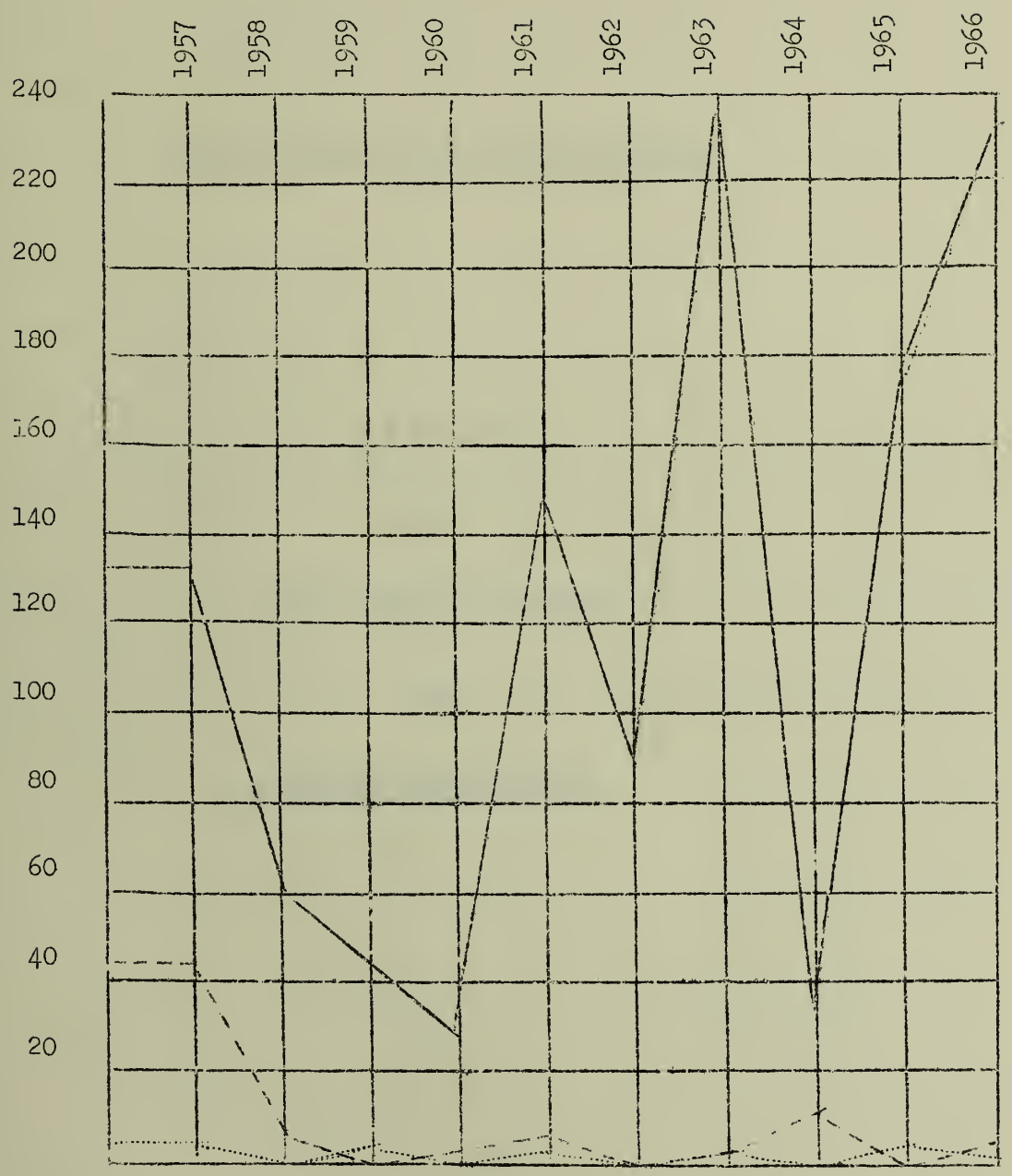
The total number of cases on the register at 31st December, 1966 was as follows:-

Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		
M	F	Total	M	F	Total
12	5	17	2	2	4

Three persons on the register are Commonwealth immigrants.



INFECTIOUS DISEASE STATISTICS



Measles _____
Scarlet Fever .....
Whooping Cough _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

DIPHTHERIA

No cases of diphtheria were reported during the year. The diphtheria immunisation administration is carried out by the Divisional Health Authority.

GREAT HARWOOD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

R E P O R T

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my 19th Annual Report for the year 1966. Due to the increase in slaughtering a great deal of time had to be spent at the abattoirs and the fluctuation of times of slaughtering made other systematic inspection duties very uncertain. The services of a part-time meat inspector have been most helpful and enabled the remaining work of the department to function fairly satisfactorily during the year.

Steady progress in bathroom and waste water closet conversions was maintained during the year but there are still over 1,000 waste water closets to be converted.

I wish to thank the Health Committee, officers and staff for their support and assistance during the year.

Yours faithfully,

G. WALMSLEY,

Public Health Inspector.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

OF FOOD

MILK AND DAIRIES Number of farms 14

MILK SAMPLES

(1) Samples for Biological Examination -

	Total No. of samples submitted	Results		
		Positive	Negative	No result
Results:-	42			
(a) Tuberculosis		Nil	Nil	-
(b) Brucellosis - Ring Test		-	4	-
(c) " - Culture Test		-	-	-
(d) " - Biological Test. ..		-	38	-

(2) Samples for Statutory Tests -

	No. of samples	Satisfactory	Unsatis-factory	Void samples
Raw Milk:				
(a) Methylene Blue Test	8	8	Nil	-
Heat Treated Milk:				
(b) Methylene Blue Test	Nil	Nil	Nil	-
(c) Phosphatase Test				
(d) Turbidity Test				
(e) Colony Count Test				

ICE CREAM REGULATIONS - Registered Premises

Manufacturers (hot mix) .. .. 1 Manufacturers (cold mix) .. .. .. NIL

Vendors (shops, etc.) .. .. 36 Hawkers .. .. NIL

WATER SUPPLY

RAW WATER SAMPLES (Local Authority)

Bacteriological Examinations (Private Supply) 6

TREATED WATER SAMPLES (Local Authority)

Bacteriological Examinations 14

" " (Public Swimming Baths) 8

All the samples were reported to be satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING.

A total of 57 samples was obtained comprising 37 samples of milk (three of which were Channel Islands milk) and 20 others as follows:-

1 Soft drink to be diluted	1 Saccharin tablets
2 Castor Oil B.P.	1 Yeast tablets
1 Throat lozenges	1 Dried thyme
1 Meat, canned	1 Metatone
1 Colouring material	1 Panadol tablets
2 Sweets	1 Syrup of Figs
1 Borax B.P.	1 Icipen V tablets
1 Epsom salts	3 Edible Tree Decorations

I give below details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:-

Type of Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
1 Formal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.5% extraneous water	Producer cautioned and further sample obtained.
1 Informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.5% extraneous water	Producer cautioned and further sample obtained.

STORAGE SALE AND PREPARATION OF FOOD

Number of food premises and type at the end of the year:-

General grocers and provision dealers	35
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game etc.)	14
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game etc.)	1
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe etc.)	11
Bakers and/or confectioners	16
Fried Fish Shops	8
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc..	10
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	34
Others..	10

Number of Registered Premises

Ice Cream	36
Meat Preparation etc.	4

MEAT INSPECTION

Details of meat inspection are given below and slaughtering took place practically every day. In view of the increase in slaughtering, the Council reviewed the meat inspection charges and these are now at the maximum figure as defined in the Regulations. One application for a new slaughterhouse was received and submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the application being refused.

	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	18,283	2974
Number inspected	18,283	2974
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci-		
Whole carcases condemned	30	17
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2,000	78
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	11.1	3.2
Tuberculosis only-		
Whole carcases condemned	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	6
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	0.2
Cysticercosis-		
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	304	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil

H O U S I N G

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

These are not operated by the Council.

STANDARD GRANTS

Details of standard grants up to December 31st, 1966 are as follows:-

	Applications Received	Applications Approved
1959	67	66
1960	108	108
1961	101	101
1962	92	92
1963	77	77
1964	93	93
1965	124	124
1966	83	83

GRANTS PAID

	Premises	Amount of Grant	Bath	Amenities			
				Washbasin	Hot Water	W.C.	Food Store
1959	10	£994	8	8	8	10	10
1960	99	£11318	88	89	70	92	95
1961	107	£11899	95	94	77	104	85
1962	92	£14813	107	109	85	120	96
1963	74	£8897	61	69	49	74	65
1964	89	£10113	81	84	43	92	87
1965	103	£13369	93	92	85	103	99
1966	93	£11662	80	80	70	92	91

1. Number of new dwellings erected during the year:-

(a) By the local authority	14
(b) By other local authorities	NIL
(c) By other bodies or persons	27

2. Total number of dwellings owned by the local authority at end of year 351

3. Inspections of dwellings during the year:-

(i) (a) Total No. of dwellings inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Act)	51
(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	160
(c) No. of dwellings in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	12
(ii) Total No. of dwellings existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which -	
(a) Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have been made (at any time)	12
(b) Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have not yet been made	180

4. Houses Demolished:-

	Number	Displaced during year from houses to be demolished or closed	
		Persons	Families
In or Adjoining Clearance Areas:			
(i) Houses unfit for human habitation (ii) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. (iii) Houses on land acquired under S.43(2) Housing Act, 1957	NIL	NIL	NIL
Not in or Adjoining Clearance Areas:			
(iv) As a result of formal or informal procedure under S.16 or S.17 (1) Housing Act, 1957 (v) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	NIL	Nil	NIL

5. Unfit Houses Closed:-

	Number	Displaced during year from houses to be demolished or closed	
		Persons	Families
(i) Under S.16(4), S.17(1) and S.35(1) Housing Act, 1957 and S.26, Housing Act, 1961	1	NIL	NIL
(ii) Under S.17(3) and S.26 Housing Act, 1957	NIL	NIL	NIL
(iii) Parts of buildings closed under S.18 Housing Act, 1957	NIL	NIL	NIL

6. Unfit Houses Made Fit:-

	Number
(i) By owner after informal action by local authority	20
(ii) After formal notice under S.9 and S.16 Housing Act, 1957 (a) by owner	NIL
(b) by local authority. ..	NIL
(iii) After formal notice under Public Health Acts.	4
(iv) After modification or revocation of a clearance order under S.21 Housing Act, 1961.	NIL
(v) After determination of a demolition order under S.24, Housing Act, 1957	NIL
(vi) After determination of a closing order under S.27, Housing Act, 1961.	NIL

7. Purchase of Houses by Agreement:-

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of occupants of houses in Col. 1 (2)
Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders	1	NIL

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

98 waste water closets were converted during the year, 54 being converted or renewed due to standard grant improvements. There are approximately 1,186 waste water closets still remaining in the district.

New public conveniences were provided at Mercer Hall baths and these are of a very high standard and include the provision of wash basins, hot water supply and towels. Some supervision of these toilets is available and it is sincerely hoped that vandalism will not ruin an amenity which has been provided for the public at no little cost. Three obsolete public conveniences are to be closed in Queen Street, Delph Road and Lomax Square.

New toilet facilities were also provided adjacent to the market square for the use of the market stallholders, to comply with the provisions of the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966.

FACTORIES

There are 61 factories including bakehouses on the register and 6 visits were made during the year. Sanitary accommodation called for the most attention and informal action only was required to remedy the defects.

RODENT CONTROL

All rodent control and disinfestation work was undertaken by Messrs. Rentokil Ltd. All complaints were readily dealt with and the contract scheme has operated successfully. The Council's tip was treated for rats every six weeks and two sewer treatments were carried out.

The following details show the amount of work carried out during the year.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-agricultural	Agricultural
(a) No. of properties in district	4861	18
(b) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	53	1
(c) No. of (b) infested by - rats	46	1
mice	7	-
(d) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	8	-
(e) No. of (d) infested by - rats	1	-
mice	-	-

LITTER ACTIVITIES

24 new litter receptacles of modern appearance and design were installed at strategic points and the old litter receptacles attached to street lighting columns bearing advertisements were removed. The new receptacles have reduced to a slight extent the objectionable clutter of street furniture which appears to grow annually.

Litter bins and paper sacks were also provided to various organisations holding fetes, shows and similar events. All that is required is co-operation from the general public to use the anti-litter facilities provided and the litter nuisance would be considerably reduced.

CARAVAN SITES

One site is licensed for 60 holiday caravans. The site is situated in a secluded position away from residential development and the standard of site amenities is excellent.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT.

Only periodical inspections were carried out during the year due to increased meat inspection and other duties. A reasonable amount of work has been carried out at various premises to comply with the provisions of the Act and details of premises are as follows:-

	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale shops, warehouses	Catering Establishments open to public, canteens	Fuel Storage Depots
(i) No. of registered premises at end of year	11	42	1	2	-
(ii) No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during year	4	16	-	3	-
(iii) No. of exemptions current at end of year	-	-	-	-	-

CLEAN AIR ACT

The Health Committee deferred action for the time being until the fuel position and other relevant factors had been clarified. The whole district originally should have been completed by 1970 and it is hoped that a resumption of smoke control may be commenced in the near future.

REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL

A weekly collection of household refuse was maintained throughout the year mainly due to the excellent work performed by the outdoor staff.

The vehicles operated by the Health Department are as follows:

One Gibson Pendulum	8-12 cu.yd. compressor
One Karrier Ramillies	8-12 cu.yd. "
One Dennis Side Loader	7 cu. yd.
One Lewin Sweeper	
One Weatherill 12H Loading Shovel	

SALVAGE

Year	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s	d	Average tonnage per month	
							Tons	Cwts.
1966	65	14	0	492	15	2	5	9
1965	105	16	3	786	15	10	8	16
1964	93	7	1	560	3	6	7	15
1963	64	14	2	388	7	-	5	7
1962	47	9	-	289	14	7	3	19
1961	102	9	3	666	3	-	8	10
1960	138	7	3	899	7	-	11	10
1959	124	11	1	752	19	-	10	4
1958	119	11	3	762	16	6	9	19
1957	131	11	-	855	1	-	10	19
1956	134	3	1	975	13	-	11	3
1955	151	12	3	1212	12	--	12	12
1954	132	14	2	828	2	10	11	1
1953	109	3	1	599	-	-	9	1

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(I) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	-	-	-
(II) Factories not included in (I) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	60	6	2	-
(III) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	61	6	2	-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).....	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient.....	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.....	2	2	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.....	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).....	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	2	-

CLEANSING SERVICE

Table showing estimated costs for the year ending 31st March 1967

Item	Particulars	Refuse Collection	Refuse Disposal	Salvage	Street Cleansing inc: gully cleaning. Street Sweeping - District Roads.
A.	Gross Expenditure	£8,824	£2,143	£620	£1,000
B.	Gross Income	£120	£685		-
C.	Net Cost	£8,704	£2,078		£1,000
D.	Net Cost per 1,000 premises	£1,813	£420		-
E.	Net Cost per 1,000 population	£821	£196		-
F.	Net Cost equivalent rate in £.	7.9d.	1.9d.		0.9d.